

Suya), from Karachi, Sind; *Carpophaga palumboides* and *Mareca albogularis*, from the Andamans. The remaining papers, all by Mr. Hume, are:—Additional notes on the avifauna of the Andamans; notes on *Spizaetus kienerii*; and shorter notes on the eggs of *Megapodius nicobaricus*, on *Indicator xanthonotus*, on an Eagle-Owl from Kulu, to be called *Bubo hemachalanus* if distinct from *B. maximus*, on *Archibuteo hemiptilopus*, *Procarduelis mandellii*, recognized as identical with *P. rubescens* (Mr. Hume explains his mistake in redescribing this bird), on the occurrence of *Poliornis liventer*, Temm., at Thayet Myo, on a *Spizaetus* from Travancore, described as *S. sphynx*, on *Chelidon urbica*, from the Nilgiri hills, on a *lutino* of *Palæornis rosa*, and on the occurrence of *Parus cinereus* at Purneah.

XXV.—*Descriptions of a new Jay and a new Woodpecker from Persia.* By WILLIAM T. BLANFORD, F.G.S., C.M.Z.S.

GARRULUS HYRCANUS, sp. nov.

G. affinis G. glandario, sed minor; tarso brevior; pilei plumis nigris anguste rufescenti-vel rufo-schistaceo marginatis, haud albido; gulâ isabellinâ in colorem saturatiorem pectoris gradatim transeunte, remige secundario penultimo et plerumque antepenultimo maculâ ferrugineâ magnâ ad pogonium externum signatis.

Long. alæ 6·5, caudæ 5·2, tarsi 1·6, rostri a fr. 1·2.

Hab. in sylvis Hyrcaniæ, hodie Mazendaran dictæ, in parte septentrionali regni recentis Persici haud procul a litore maris Caspii.

Head above black, the feathers with narrow rufous edges, which are isabelline towards the forehead, rufous slaty behind, never white as in *G. glandarius* and *G. japonicus*, but rather resembling those in *G. brandti*; sides of head pale rufous, the ear-coverts being decidedly paler than the back. A black patch at the base of the lower mandible extending a short distance down the side of the throat, but not on to the lores. Hind neck and back vinaceous, with a grey tinge, upper tail-coverts white. Tail brownish black, the central feathers and outer webs of some of the others with imperfect narrow bluish

grey transverse bars near the base. Quills brownish black; all the primaries except the first with broad white margins; basal portion of outer web of secondaries, except the five nearest the body, white, with a blue spot at the further end of the white portion and blue bands near the wing; last secondary but four with blue, black, and white bands near the base of the outer web; last but three blackish brown throughout, the last three with an increasing amount of ferruginous brown, restricted to the outer web in all but the last, in which it extends over both webs and only the tip of the feathers is black. Wing-coverts as in *G. glandarius*, those of the primaries banded blue and black. Chin and throat rufous white passing gradually into the rufous of the breast and abdomen, which are nearly of the same colour as the back. Vent and lower tail-coverts white.

PICUS SANCTI-JOANNIS, sp. nov.

P. affinis P. medio, sed pileo minus roseo, pectore albo haud fulvo, abdomine medio flavo, crisso subcaudalibusque solis coccineis, pectoris lateribus abdomineque striis nigris angustioribus signatis; rectricibus extimis fasciâ unicâ albâ mediocri transversâ, nec duabus latis notatis, penultimis extus albo maculatis, haud fasciatis, reliquis omnino nigris; remigibus e contrario maculis albis majoribus signatis. Long. alæ 4·75, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 0·8, rostri a fronte 1, poll. Angl. et dec.

Hab. in quercetis prope urbem Shiraz, in Persiâ meridionali, ad alt. circa 4000–7000 ped. Angl. supra mare.

Crown of the head scarlet, less crimson than in *P. medius*; forehead, lores, and sides of the head, including the feathers above the eye, white, with a slight isabelline tinge, which is more pronounced on the forehead; ear-coverts greyish, with a greyish white band passing from behind them to the side of the breasts, in front of which is a sooty black band, rather irregular in form, terminating in an imperfect pectoral gorget. Nape brownish black, back brown, rump and upper tail-coverts brownish black, the former and the lower back mixed with dark ashy grey, from the bases of the feathers showing. Tail dull black, without any white on the six central feathers, the penultimate pair with two white spots on the outer and

one on the inner web, the latter corresponding with one of the former, but not meeting it as in *P. medius*; perhaps in fresh moult these feathers may have a small white tip, of which, however, no trace remains in the specimens collected. The outermost rectrices have a white tip, a rather irregular white bar about half an inch from the end, much narrower than the black band beyond it, and one or two more white spots on one or both webs nearer their base. Scapulars white; wing-coverts brownish black, some of those next the scapularies edged and tipped with white; quills brownish black, with white spots on both margins, those on the outer primaries being about as long as the intervening black spaces; altogether these spots form six bands on the primaries and four on the secondaries, the band at the base being partly concealed by the coverts. These bands are conspicuously broader than in *P. medius*. Breast dull white, with imperfect black gorget; sides of the breast and flanks, which are greyish, and the abdomen, with narrow, long, black streaks; middle of abdomen yellow; lower abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts scarlet.

Of this new Woodpecker three specimens were procured in the oak-forests near Shiraz by Major St. John, R.E., after whom I have named the species.

XXVI.—Letters, Announcements, &c.

The following letters, addressed “To the Editor of ‘The Ibis,’” have been received:—

Ningpo, December 1872.

DEAR SIR,—Last mail has placed ‘The Ibis’ of July in my hands. Mr. J. H. Gurney (p. 328) refers to my confusing *Scops japonicus* with a species of *Lempijius*. I regret the blunder and have been at some pains to clear up the matter. The bird I procured at Tamsuy (N.W. Formosa) (noted in ‘The Ibis,’ 1865, p. 348) was the bird now in the Norwich museum, which Mr. Gurney discovered to be a *Lempijius*. I received it from the interior, in skin, and could not note the colour of its eyes. But the bird procured at a later date